

					Small Entity			Other Than Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra		Rate	Additional Fee		Rate	Additional Fee
Total	34	- 34	= 0		x \$ 9	-0-		x \$ 18	-0-
Independent	3	- 3	= 0		x \$ 40	-0-		x \$ 80	-0-
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims					x \$140	-0-		x \$280	-0-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE					\$-0-				

Commissioner of Patents
Application Serial No. 09/990,773

Page 2

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

X Any additional filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 for the presentation of extra Claims.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

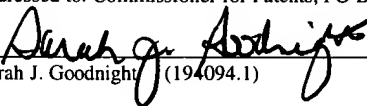
Date: February 13, 2004

By: 

Robert W. Diehl, Reg. No. 35,118
Customer No. 26851
Wallenstein Wagner & Rockey, Ltd.
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 14, 2004.



Sarah J. Goodnight (194094.1)



Attorney Docket No. 3873 P 011

PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HAJIZADEH, Kiamars

Application No. 09/990,773

Filed: November 14, 2001

For: PRION-DETECTION BUSINESS METHODS

RECEIVED

FEB 24 2004

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Swartz, Rodney P.

REPLY TO DECEMBER 17, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 17, 2003. A shortened statutory period of three months has been set for response, making this Reply due on March 17, 2004. Therefore, the filing of this Reply should be considered timely.

Reconsideration of the referenced application, including all pending claims, is respectfully requested in light of the remarks set forth below.